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The Hong Kong & Shanghai Hotels, Ltd.

## TRAMWAY COMPANY'S BUS LOSSES

### DISCOURAGING REPORT

### UNIFIED CONTROL URGED FOR THE KOWLOON SERVICES.

### A FRANCHISE SUGGESTED

At the annual meeting of the Hong Kong Tramways, Limited, held this morning in the Board room of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Mr. A. B. Stewart, who took the chair, whilst sounding a more cheerful note as to the profits and traffic on the Company's trams during the year, regretted to report substantial losses on the bus services operated both in Hong Kong and Kowloon.

The losses were particularly disturbing on the subsidiary Kai Tack routes in Kowloon, where the deficit on the year's working was over \$47,000. The Chairman attributed this to a greatly increased price of petrol, augmented by the petrol tax, the increased seating accommodation tax, and the high charges on the service, due to the unfavourable rate of exchange.

### TOO MANY COMPANIES

It was his opinion that it would never be economical or profitable to run buses on the Hong Kong side alongside of the Company's trams. As regards Kowloon, the position was chaotic, with so many competing companies. He pleaded that the time had come for a system of unified control, together with the grant of a franchise of not less than twenty years, the grantees to have the option of running either trolley vehicles or Diesel-engine buses, or both if necessary, in conjunction with the Chinese Government.

Lord Ponsonby paid a tribute to Lord Buxton and his signal services in formulating lines on which various educational objects in China could best be stimulated. Lord Buxton said that the proposals of the Bill fell short of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, of which he is Chairman, but the Committee cordially agreed to the conclusions reached with the Chinese Government.

Lord Buxton concluded by paying a tribute to his Chinese colleagues on the Advisory Committee.

Lord Ponsonby said that Lord Buxton's endorsement would give a blessing to the measure in China.—Reuter.

compares very favourably with the majority of tramways I saw elsewhere. This particularly applies to the condition of the track and the appearance of the rolling stock."

**Loss On Buses.**

As regards the operation of your company's motor-buses, however, the report I have to make is not a favourable one.

After providing for depreciation your motor-buses last year were run at a loss of \$21,665. As is well-known, these are run in direct competition with our trams. There is a parallel case in the much larger city of Liverpool where the Corporation is reported to have lost £30,000 on the operation of its motor-buses last year. The following extract from the Tramway and Railway World of November 1 is an interesting commentary on the position:

#### CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the Report and accounts, said:

In the chairman's speech last year you were told that receipts were less than in the previous year by nearly three lakhs. On this occasion I can sound a more cheerful note. Not only are the traffic receipts up by over a lakh but—in spite of the serious decline in the value of the dollar—the gross working profit is up by nearly \$28,000. The number of miles run—3,020,295—was the greatest in the history of the company and the passengers carried (approximately 29,000,000) show an increase of about two millions on the previous year.

From the foregoing, it may reasonably be presumed that the year under review has witnessed a distinct turn of the tide and that those "adverse factors" referred to last year by my predecessor in this chair have largely disappeared.

the factors contributing most sub-

In the opinion of your Board substantially towards these improved prospects are:

(a) The big work of fitting saloon top covers to all trams has now been completed.

(b) The reconstruction of the track between Arsenal Street and Causeway Bay has also been completed.

(c) So much of the old obsolete single track on the Shaukiwan section has been doubled that little more than a mile of single track remains. This enables us to operate a 4-minutes' service on this route—a service which was physically impossible under the old single track conditions.

(d) The new township which is rapidly appearing on the Praia East Reclamation.

At this stage it is perhaps not out of place to quote from the annual report of the General Manager where he says:

"During my recent leave I inspected a number of City Transport Systems in Canada and Britain. In addition to visiting New York, Berlin, and Cologne and I am happy to say that the Hong Kong Tramway system

# The China Mail

ESTABLISHED 1845

TO-DAY'S DOLLAR.—The closing rate of the dollar on demand, to-day was 11d.

No. 27,732

HONG KONG, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1931.

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### A SECRET?

An Irish Motorist thinks that the Dunlop Rubber Company possess a valuable secret. Read what he says:

"I have been long since convinced that Dunlop covers and tubes are the best made for cars, motor cycles and cycles. I say this from long experience."

"The Dunlop Company, I think, is like Guinness & Co. It has a manufacturing secret, undiscovered by its competitors."

The Dunlop Rubber Co., (China) Ltd. Pedder Building. Telephone 24554.

### ITALY AND NAVAL AGREEMENT.

Satisfactory Ending to Conference.

### TRIUMPH OF DIPLOMACY.

Rome, Yesterday.

Optimism prevails in connection with the speedy diplomacy carried on by "Mr. Henderson's travelling conference." Signor Mussolini, accompanied by Signors Grandi and Sirianni, received Mr. Henderson and Mr. Alexander in the Palazzo Venezia in the afternoon and discussed the draft naval agreement for an hour.

Mr. Henderson and Mr. Alexander were smiling when they left and arranged a sightseeing tour for to-morrow. This is indicated as meaning that their work is done and that the political aspect of the negotiations has been satisfactorily decided. The technical side still remains, and experts worked furiously all day long and start early to-morrow.—Reuter.

#### Banquet to Visitors.

Rome, Yesterday. The Naval negotiations continued throughout to-day in Rome. In the light of their recent Paris conversations the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Arthur Henderson, and the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. A. V. Alexander, discussed the various technical questions involved with Signor Grandi and Admiral Sirianni at the Palace Chigi for some hours.

In the afternoon the British Ministers discussed the Naval accord project for an hour with Signor Mussolini when Signors Grandi and Sirianni were also present. It is anticipated that the discussions will be continued tomorrow. To-night Signor Grandi gave a banquet in honour of the British visitors.—British Wireless Service.

#### Earlier Report.

Rome, Yesterday. The British attempt to bring Italy into the full naval treaty began in earnest at Chigi Palace at 11 a.m. to-day, with a meeting between Mr. Henderson and Mr. Alexander and the Foreign Minister, Signor Gandhi, and the Navy Minister, Admiral Sirianni.—Reuter.

### BONUS BILL.

### VETOED BY PRESIDENT HOOVER.

### SUSTAINED BY HOUSE.

Washington, Yesterday. President Hoover has vetoed the Soldiers' Bonus Bill but, in view of the huge majorities by which the Bill was passed in both Houses, the House of Representatives forthwith decided to sustain the measure.—American Service.

[A Washington cablegram of February 20 stated:—"The Senate has passed the Soldiers' Bonus Bill, which has already received the approval of the House of Representatives, and which empowers 'veterans' of the World War holding adjusted compensation certificates to borrow from the Government 50 per cent. of their face value instead of 22½ per cent. as at present. Mr. Mellon recently declared that the Bill would involve loan operations totalling \$200,000,000 (\$1,000,000,000) in the next two years. President Hoover is expected to veto the Bill, but he will probably be overridden by a two-thirds majority of Congress.]

ble, offer themselves for re-election.

During the year the Hon. Mr. C. Gordon Mackie, Messrs. J. P. Warren, J. H. Little, J. M. Alves, R. E. Coxon, and A. B. Stewart resigned from the Board and Sir Robert Ho Tung, Mr. Li Tee-fong and Mr. M. H. Lo were elected as Directors at the last annual general meeting, and the Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga and Mr. C. A. da Rosa were invited to join the Board.

Auditors. The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Liustead and Davis and Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews, who offer themselves as auditors for the present year.

### LOCAL RACING SENSATION.

#### SECURITY OF CHINA INDEMNITY BILL

#### Second Reading Passed by House of Lords.

#### OBJECTS PRAISED.

London, Yesterday. The House of Lords to-day passed the second reading of the China Indemnity Bill as by arrangement there will be no committee or report stages of the Bill, which now awaits its third reading.

Lord Ponsonby paid a tribute to Lord Buxton and his signal services in formulating lines on which various educational objects in China could best be stimulated.

Lord Buxton said that the proposals of the Bill fell short of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, of which he is Chairman, but the Committee cordially agreed to the conclusions reached with the Chinese Government.

Lord Buxton concluded by paying a tribute to his Chinese colleagues on the Advisory Committee.

Lord Ponsonby said that Lord Buxton's endorsement would give a blessing to the measure in China.—Reuter.

### PLOT TO RESTORE CAPITALISM.

#### Counter-Revolutionaries to Stand Trial.

#### DEBARRED FROM THE DERBY

#### FINANCED ABROAD.

London, Yesterday. Fourteen members of the Socialist organisation, the "All Union Bureau of Central Committees of Mensheviks," will stand trial in the Supreme Court on March 1, charged with counter-revolutionary activities.

The organisation is alleged to have aimed at the restoration of the capitalist regime by means of "wrecking" activities and foreign intervention.

The indictment states that the All-Union Bureau was organised in central economic institutions and a number of counter-revolutionary cells were financed by Mensheviks abroad and the Industrial Party from funds subsidised by the German Social Democratic Party, the Second International, and the Paris Commercial Industrial Committee. All defendants are reported to have pleaded guilty.—Reuter.

#### SILVER PROPOSALS.

#### Part Of Wider Problem Of Stabilisation.

#### London, Yesterday.

In the House of Commons at question time Mr. Philip Snowden stated that if any practical proposals for the stabilisation of silver were submitted by the interests concerned he would carefully consider them, but it seemed to be difficult to deal with silver effectively except as part of the wider problem of price stabilisation generally.

London, Yesterday. Mr. W. J. Brown, Labour left-winger and Secretary of the Civil Service Clerical Association, although suffering from pleurisy, left his sick bed to address the House of Commons in order to question Mr. Snowden in regard to the cut in the bonus of Civil Servants, operating on March 1.

Dissatisfied with Mr. Snowden's reply that he was simply carrying out an agreement, Mr. Brown pressed for a debate in spite of warnings from the Speaker. He was named for disobeying the rulings of the Chair and Mr. Snowden moved his suspension.

Left-wingers challenged the motion and the voting resulted:

### STEAMBOAT COS AFFAIRS.

#### Net Profit of Over \$23,000.

#### LOSS ON MACAO RUN.

London, Yesterday. The report of the Board of Directors of the Hong Kong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd., to the ordinary annual meeting of shareholders to be held in the office of the Company, on Thursday, March 5, at 11 a.m., is as under:

The Directors have pleasure in submitting the accompanying statement of the Company's accounts for the year ended December 31, 1930. The net profit for the year, after deduction of interest, repairs, depreciation, etc., amounts to \$22,395.67 which with the amount brought forward from 1929 account, \$19,128.10, gives an amount of \$41,518.77, which the Directors recommend be carried forward to next account.

From the commencement of the year until the middle of May the steamers were operated under the system of "farming" and from that date until June 30, they were managed for the Company's account by the former farmers.

A poll having been taken on June 24, showing a majority of 5,068 votes in favour of the resolution submitted by certain shareholders at the extraordinary meeting convened on March 4, our Directors decided as from July 1 to operate the steamers under their own management, and to this end a Chinese manager was appointed and the necessary compradore's staffs and Chinese branch offices' staffs engaged.

Adverse Exchange Effects. Had it not been for the adverse rate of exchange ruling during the latter part of the year, which increased enormously the operating cost of the Company's steamers, the results of the past year's working would have compared quite favourably with those of the previous year.

The comparative figures for the Chinese freight and passenger business for the periods:

(1) 1929 January-June (when such business was farmed out) and (2) 1930 January-June (when from 1.30 to middle May such business was farmed out but thereafter until 30.6.30 was under farmers' management) show that the receipts for the 1st period exceeded those for the 2nd period by the sum of \$18,086.58 for the Canton line and \$20,963.30 for the Macao line. The comparative figures for the 1929 July-December period (when such business was farmed out) and for the 1930 July-December period (when the business was under the Company's own management) show that, whilst the Company received \$10,727.86 less in the Macao line when the business was managed by the Company, it received \$97,153.55 more in the Canton line during the period of the Company's own management than the corresponding period in 1929 when the business was farmed out.

Canton Line.

Compared with the gross earnings of the previous year, the Canton line showed a decrease of 5.2 per cent. for the first six months' working, but under our new management more favourable results were effected during the second half of the year and an increase of 28.1 per cent. was recorded. Compared with the immediately preceding half-year, viz., January-June, 1930, the result is even more striking the ratio of increase in earnings being 83.1 per cent.

As regards the loss of earnings on the Macao line of \$10,727.86, it should be pointed out that for about 3½ months during the period in question the Company had to compete with increased opposition. Had the business been farmed out, the farmers would have been entitled to substantial deductions in respect of this increased opposition. If the amount deductible by the farmers was to be credited to the account, the result would have shown a profit of approximately \$9,772.14.

The usual overhauls and repairs were effected to the Company's fleet of steamers and are all in good running order.

Directors.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Mr. R. K. Bachelor and Mr. Li Tee-fong retire from the Board by rotation, but being eligible to continue their services for the present year.

### EXPLORING ARCTIC OCEAN.

#### Sir H. Wilkins and His Jules Verne Craft.

#### SUBMARINE "EYES."

#### New York, Yesterday.

The "eyes" of the submarine in which Sir Hubert Wilkins will endeavour to reach the Arctic Ocean and endeavour to reach the Pole have been tested and found satisfactory. They contain 5,000 watt lamps of special glass capable of throwing a beam almost 100 miles in the air, but their radius under water is scarcely 100 feet.

Two will be mounted on the prow to enable the crew to see the ice tongues extending from the surface. Another will be a movable connection for divers' use.

Sir Hubert Wilkins expects the glow from the lamps to attract marine life to the side of the submarine, such as seals, polar bears, and walruses, besides fish.

Forecast:—N.E. winds; fresh; generally overcast.

#### Rainfall.

Rainfall for 24 hours ended at 10 a.m. to-day—nil. Rainfall since January 1—0.87 inch against an average of 8.04 inches—deficit 2.17 inches.

#### Temperature.

The temperature at certain specified centres this morning at 6 o'clock was:

Hong Kong	58

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**SPORT NOTICES**

**THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.**

**ANNUAL RACE MEETING 1931.**

February 28, March 2, 3, 4, and 7, 1931.

**O**N SATURDAY, February 28, the first race will be run at 1.30 p.m., and on all other days at 11.30 a.m. On the first day the first bell will be rung at 1 p.m., and on the other four days at 11 a.m.

**MEMBERS' BADGES & ENCLOSURE.**

Members are reminded that they and their ladies must wear their badges prominently displayed. No one without a badge will be admitted to the Members' Enclosure.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10 per day including tax—or \$40 including tax for the Meeting (ladies \$6 and \$20, respectively), are obtainable through the Secretary upon introduction by a Member, such Member to be responsible for all chits, &c.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the Race Club. On no pretext will children be permitted in either enclosure during the first four days of the Meeting.

**PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.**

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$4 per day including tax for all persons, including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Soldiers and Sailors in uniform are admitted to the Public Enclosure at \$1 per day, including tax. Bookmakers, Tic Tac men, &c., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

**SERVANTS' PASSES.**

Passes for Servants will be issued on application to Messrs. Linstead & Davis, Alexandra Buildings.

Employers are requested to distribute them with discrimination and to endorse their names on the passes.

Servants are not permitted in the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties, but must remain in their employers' stands.

Any persons found loitering with Servants' Passes in their possession will forfeit the same and will be removed from the enclosure.

By Order,  
C. B. BROWN,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, February 11, 1931.

**THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.**

**ANNUAL RACE MEETING, 1931.**

**T**HE TIFFIN INTERVAL on the Last Four Days will be taken after the Fifth Race on Each Day.

By Order,  
C. B. BROWN,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, February 25, 1931.

**THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.**

**ANNUAL RACE MEETING, 1931.**

**T**HE question of silks for Winter can be answered to your satisfaction by an inspection of the goods we are now showing.

They have just arrived and you really owe it to yourself to come and inspect them.

**KASHMIR SILK STORE**

36A, Queen's Road, C.  
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**COMPANY MEETINGS**

**HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

**N**OTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at City Hall, Hong Kong, on SATURDAY, the 28th February, 1931, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1930.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 16th February to SATURDAY, the 28th February, 1931, (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
V. M. GRAYBURN,  
Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, 9th February, 1931.

**THE HONG KONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.**

**N**OTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

**T**HE ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, 1, Queen's Building, Victoria, Hong Kong, on THURSDAY, 5th March, 1931, at 11 a.m. for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts, and Electing Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from FRIDAY, 20th February, 1931, to THURSDAY, 5th March, 1931, both days inclusive, during which period NO transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
JOHN ARNOLD,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 6th February, 1931.

**THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.**

**N**OTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the FORTY-SECOND ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING will be held at the Company's Offices, P. & O. Building, on WEDNESDAY, 18th March, 1931, at 11 a.m. for the purpose of presenting the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1930, and electing Directors and Auditors.

The REGISTER OF MEMBERS of the Company will be CLOSED from 5th March, 1931, to 18th March, 1931, both days inclusive, during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

ALLAN KEITH,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 19th Feb., 1931.

**GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LTD.**

**N**OTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 42nd ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of Shareholders will be held at the Offices of the Company, Exchange Building, Des Voeux Road Central, Victoria, Hong Kong, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of March, 1931, at 11.30 a.m., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st December, 1930.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, 4th March, 1931, to WEDNESDAY, 18th March, 1931, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

ALLAN KEITH,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 19th February, 1931.

**THE HONG KONG & SHANGHAI HOTELS, LIMITED.**

(Incorporated in Hong Kong.)

**N**OTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of Shareholders of The Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotels, Limited, will be held at the Registered Office of the Company (Exchange Building, Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong), on THURSDAY, the 16th day of April, 1931, at 11.30 a.m., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Board of Directors for the year ended on the 31st December, 1930, confirming the appointment of a Director and re-electing a Director and the Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 1st April, 1931, until THURSDAY, the 16th April, 1931, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,

F. C. BARRY,  
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 26th Feb., 1931.

**COMPANY MEETINGS**

**HONG KONG TELEPHONE CO., LTD.**

**N**OTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SIXTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 11th day of MARCH, 1931, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Board of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1930.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 16th February to SATURDAY, the 28th February, 1931, (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board,

W. L. MCKENZIE,  
Secretary.

14, Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong.

**RADIO**

**TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME.**

The following programme will be broadcast to-day from the Hong Kong Broadcasting Station Z.B.W. on a wavelength of 355 metres:—

5.7 p.m.—Chinese Programme.  
6.6.30 p.m.—Dr. K. S. Shin, M.B., B.S., will give the last lecture of a series on "Infant Welfare."

7.10.30 p.m.—European Programme of Columbia & Regal Records kindly supplied by Messrs. Anderson Music Co.

7 p.m.—Stock Quotations.

7.02-7.35 p.m.—Band Selections. A Moorish March (Gustav Holst), Barton Colliery Band (2nd prize winner at the Crystal Palace Band Contest) (9101).

Mighty to Save (March), The Salvation Army's Band (50).

The Blue Danube Waltz (Strauss), Prince Eugen March (Unknown), The Bombarde's Military Band (98).

Langlan Bay March (Y. May), The Carlist St. Stephen's Brass Band (18).

1812 Overture (Tchaikovsky), The Regimental Band of H.M. Grenadier Guards (576).

Seaside Medley (Published by Messrs. Lawrence Wright Music Co.), The Band of H.M. Royal Air Force (106).

7.35-7.50 p.m.—Two Song Medleys. Florrie Ford Old Time Medley (Published by Messrs. Francis Day & Hunter).

Florrie Ford & Chorus (9461).

Ragtime Memories (Published by Messrs. Feldman & Co.), The Jolly Old Fellows (113).

7.50-8.18 p.m.—Operatic.

The Bohemian Girl—There You'll Remember (Balfour, arr. Sear), Marianne—Scenes That are Brightest (Wallace, arr. Sear), J. H. Squier Celeste Octet (9107).

Carmen—Flower Song (Bizet), Arthur Jordan, Tenor (9204).

The Barber of Seville—Una Voce (Rossini), Cornet Solo by Jack Mackintosh with the Barton Colliery Band (169).

Faust—La Kermesse (Gounod), Faust—Soldier's Chorus (Gounod), Chorus & Orchestra of the National Theatre, Paris (97



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S.S.	Tons.	From Hong Kong About	Destination.
MALWA	10,980	1931. 28th Feb. 3 p.m.	Marseilles & London.
*ALIPORE	5,273	3rd Mar.	Straits, Colombo & Bombay.
KHIVA	9,135	7th Mar.	Marseilles, London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
*KHYBER	9,114	14th Mar.	Mars., L'don, Hull, R'dam & A'werp.
*SOMALI	—	21st Mar.	Marseilles, London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
RAWALPINDI	16,619	28th Mar.	Marseilles & London.
*KARMALA	9,128	11th Apr.	Mars., L'don, Hull, R'dam & A'werp.
RAJPUTANA	16,558	25th Apr.	Marseilles & London.
*SUDAN	—	2nd May	Marseilles, London, Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam & Antwerp.
KALYAN	9,144	9th May	Mars., L'don, Hull, R'dam & A'werp.
COMORIN	15,132	23rd May	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
*KASHMIR	8,985	6th June	Mars., L'don, Hull, R'dam & A'werp.
RAMPURA	16,605	20th June	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
*KASHGAR	9,005	4th July	M'scilles, L'don, R'dam & A'werp.
RAWALPINDI	16,619	18th July	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
*KHYBER	9,114	1st Aug.	M'scilles, L'don, R'dam & A'werp.
RAJPUTANA	16,558	15th Aug.	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
*KARMALA	9,128	29th Aug.	Marseilles & London.
CATHAY	16,121	12th Sept.	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
KALYAN	9,144	25th Sept.	Marseilles & London.

Cargo only. Calls Casablanca.  
Frequent connection from Port Said for Passengers and Cargo to Constantine, Pireaus, Smyrna and other Levant Ports by steamers of the Khedivial Mail Steamship Co.

## BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS.

		1931.	
TAKADA	6,949	28th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.
TILAWA	10,000	24th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.
SANTHIA	7,754	4th Apr.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.
TALIMA	10,000	12th Apr.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.
TAKADA	6,949	2nd May	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.

B.I. ApCar Line steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers. All steamers are fitted with wireless and carry a qualified surgeon.

## EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South).

		1931.	
TANDA	6,056	28th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta.
ST. ALBANS	4,500	1st Apr.	Manila, Rangoon, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne.
NELLOR	6,853	1st May	

Regular monthly sailings from Hong Kong to Shanghai and Japan and Hong Kong to Australia.  
Hong Kong to Sydney—19 days.  
Frequent connections from Australia with the following:—  
The Union S.S. Company's steamers to the United Kingdom via New Zealand, Vancouver, San Francisco, etc.  
The P. & O. Royal Mail Steamers to London and  
The P. & O. Branch Service of steamers to London via Suez.  
The New Zealand Shipping Company's steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

## SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN.

		1931.	
RAWALPINDI	16,619	27th Feb.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
TILAWA	10,000	9th Mar.	Amoy, Shanghai, Moji, Kobe, Yokohama & Osaka.
*MIRZAFOR	6,715	6th Mar.	Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Yhama.
ST. ALBANS	4,500	13th Mar.	Amoy, Shai, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
SANTHIA	7,754	18th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
KARMALA	9,128	23th Mar.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
*SUDAN	—	28th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
TALIMA	10,000	1st Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
RAJPUTANA	16,558	6th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
NELLOR	6,853	11th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
KALYAN	9,144	16th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
TILAWA	10,000	24th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
COMORIN	15,132	24th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
KASIMIR	8,985	8th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
TANDA	6,956	8th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
TALAMBRA	8,018	12th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
RAMPURA	16,601	22nd May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
KASHGAR	9,005	5th June	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
ST. ALBANS	4,500	19th June	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
RAWALPINDI	16,619	1st July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
KHYBER	9,114	3rd July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
NELLOR	6,853	6th July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
RAJPUTANA	16,558	17th July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
KARMALA	9,128	31st July	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.  
WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL SHIPS.

Passenger for Rangoon must defray their own Hotel expenses at Singapore while awaiting the on-arriving steamer.

A Cabin is fitted with Electric Fans free of charge.  
Passenger on London and Australia Line are fitted with Laundry.

Passenger measuring not more than 24 ft. 6 in. x 8 ft. 11 in. will be received at the Company's Office up to Noon on the day previous to sailing.

For further information, Passage, Freight, Handbooks, etc. apply to:

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.,  
P. & O. Building, Connaught Rd. C, Hong Kong.

Agents:

THE KWONG HUP LUNG CO. LTD.

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER MAKERS, BRASS and IRON FOUNDRIES. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have over thirty years' experience. We own two shipways and can accommodate any craft of 200 feet long.

Town Office 14, Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong. Tel. 2445.

Shipyards: Shamshuipo, Kowloon, Hong Kong. Kowloon Tel. 5702.

Estimates furnished on application.

Hong Kong, April 1, 1931.

## A WAR MISTAKE. WHEN BRITISH GUNNERS FIRED ON J-BOAT.

London, Jan. 9.  
How the gunners on a Q-ship—one of Britain's mystery ships during the war—misread the identification letters on a British submarine, and sank it with the loss of 19 of its crew, is told for the first time in *By Guess and By God*, a book by William Carr Guy just published.

The book takes its title from the wartime watchword of the "trade"—the submarine service. It is a noble tribute to naval discipline, and one of the grimiest service reports ever written.

An enquiry into the tragic mistake exonerated the Q-boat officers, and congratulated the gun crews on the accuracy of their aim. When officers of the Q-boat left the courtroom, the survivors of the sunken submarine came to attention and saluted them.

### Visibility Tricky.

The vessels concerned were the submarines J6 and an old topsail schooner expensively transformed into a Q-boat.

Its commander was an experienced officer, who many times had been decorated for gallantry.

The Q-boat was keenly watching near Blyth for German submarines going down the English Channel.

In tricky visibility two British submarines passed safely after recognition, but when the J6 hove in sight the Q-boat crew, crouching behind camouflaged guns, whispered tensely, "It's a Fritz!" It was afterwards ascertained that something hanging from the conning tower completed the left vertical line of the J, transforming it into a U, and leading to the impression that the submarine was the U6, and therefore a German vessel.

### Opens Pointblank Fire.

The Q-boat commander immediately cried, "Break out the ensign—fire!"

The ensign drooped, and was not identifiable because of the absence of wind. The submarine's flag was run up, but that was possibly immaterial, because a previous German submarine had escaped by showing a British ensign, thus causing the captain of the Q-boat to withhold fire.

The Q-boat dropped down its screens and opened independent pointblank fire. The first shot smashed the arm of a man standing on the conning tower of the submarine, who was about to fire a recognition sign from a rifle, and killed an officer beside him.

The second shell pierced the waterline of the submarine, and wrecked the control room. Then the four-inch gun of the Q-boat registered a direct hit.

An officer sprang on to the after hatch of the submarine frantically waving a white cloth. The Q-boat ceased fire, but reopened it as the submarine entered a fogbank, signalling with an arc lamp, "Help, help, help."

### Realisation.

The Q-boat crew were cursing at missing it when the fog rose like a theatre curtain, disclosing the submarine dead ahead. Its bows aloft, conning tower awash, and men struggling round a newly launched collapsible boat.

The Q-boat headed for the spot, and its officers were stunned to perceive H.M. Submarines on the caps of the men. Each vessel had thought that the other was an enemy.

Fifteen of the 30 men on the submarine were saved, Q-boat sailors diving to the rescue of the swimmers one of whom was holding up the commander.

### SOVIET SHIPPING.

102 New Vessels Being Built During Winter Months.

Moscow, Jan. 26.  
In order to improve communications and transport facilities, the present winter months are being used for constructing 102 new steamers and repairing a large number of old vessels doing service or destined for traffic on the river Volga, the central economic authorities having just granted for this purpose the funds demanded by the local organs.

His Worship fined the accused \$25 or 3 weeks' imprisonment in default.

"Three weeks. That's all right," exclaimed the accused as he left the dock.

Nova Scotia apple shipments through the Port of Halifax this season have passed the quarter million mark, at 258,728 barrels, compared with 196,420 barrels for the similar period of last year.

### TRAVEL A.-C. LINE

To AUSTRALIA: Calling at Manila (P. I.), Thursday 1st, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.

BRITISH STREAMERS: CHANGTZE, TAIPING (oil burner).

FASTER and MOST UP-TO-DATE STREAMERS IN THE SERVICE.

ELECTRIC LAUNDRY, BARBER SHOP, BUREOON and STEWARDS CARRIED.

Enjoy Your Short Leave in Australia and New Zealand, Hong Kong, Sydney—19 Days.

FIRST CLASS FARE TO SYDNEY, 7½ RETURN

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ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER MAKERS, BRASS and IRON FOUNDRIES. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have over thirty years' experience. We own two shipways and can accommodate any craft of 200 feet long.

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Estimates furnished on application.

Hong Kong, April 1, 1931.

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Seasonable Remedies and Preventives

**WATSON'S PECTORAL COUGH BALSAM**For Cough, Colds and Bronchitis  
in bottles \$1.00 and \$2.00.**MARTIN'S INFLUENZA MIXTURE**

for Cold in the head and Catarrh \$1.25 per bottle.

**WATSON'S ANTISEPTIC THROAT PASTILLES**

for Relaxed and Sure Throat; 85 cents per tin.

**WATSON'S EU-PINE INHALANT**

for Cold in the head &amp;c. 50 cents per bottle.

**A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.**

Established 81 Years.

Chemicals and Reagents, Medical and Surgical Instruments, Microscopes and Microscopical Accessories, Laboratory Apparatus and Glassware, Hospital Furniture and Equipment, Anatomical Models, etc.

All Kinds of Supplies for Schools, and Large Educational Institutions.

Drawing Instruments for the Architects, Engineers, etc.

**FOR ECONOMY, QUALITY AND SERVICE**  
GO TO A FIRM WHICH SPECIALISES.**WE SPECIALISE AND WE CARRY STOCKS.****SCHMIDT & CO.**French Bank Building,  
HONG KONG.4, Ching Yuen Molo,  
West Bund, CANTON.**EXHIBITION AND SALE OF ELABORATE IVORY CARVINGS FOR TWO WEEKS ONLY**

AT

**MATSUMURA & NIKKO**

5, Arsenal St., Wan Chai, opp. R.N. Armament Depot.

This is our First Exhibition since we recently arranged with the Ivory Sculptors' Association in Tokyo, to display their Master Works twice yearly.

**Donations and Subscriptions must now****be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. H. E.****Goldsmith, 525, The Peak.****HONG KONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY****STAR****COMMENCING SAT., MARCH 7th.****G  
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WESTMINSTER SINGERS****THE RETURN ENGAGEMENT OF THE FAMOUS ARTISTES.****WHITEAWAYS****MEN'S RAINCOATS**

Fawn Single Texture Paraffin

Cloth Waterproofs. Light weight but absolutely reliable.

Well cut. With and without Belts.

\$27.50 to \$35.00

**THE "NICHOLSON."**

Gabardine Raincoat. Useful also, as a Light Overcoat.

Fawn and Navy. With or without Belt.

\$95.00 to \$120.00

**CALL AND INSPECT  
MEN'S OUTFITTING DEPARTMENT.****WHITEAWAY LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.  
HONG KONG.**

The Commission will have to find, firstly, what has brought about the slump in silver; secondly, how Hong Kong may best adjust its currency to that of gold-using countries without undue loss; and, thirdly, whether the Colony's trade would ultimately benefit by stabilisation on a gold standard. It is impossible to forecast the likely trend of their findings, but, whatever they are, it will be a matter of vexation to some and of comfort to others that they are not to be expected to come into effect for a considerable time.

**News in Brief.**

One Chinese case of typhoid fever was notified yesterday.

For leaving his car unattended in Canton Road on February 16, Mr. C. E. Terry was fined \$5 at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning.

The ordinary yearly meeting of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotels, Ltd., is advertised to be held on Thursday, April 16, at 11.30 a.m.

The Japanese Consul-General forwards a copy of the 30th Financial and Economic Annual of Japan, issued by the Department of Finance.

Shareholders of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation are reminded that the annual meeting takes place to-morrow in the City Hall at 11.30 a.m.

Silk forwarded from here by the Empress of Japan on February 5 arrived in New York (St. John's Park) and Hoboken on February 24, having been 19 days in transit.

For stealing a camera, the property of Wong Chin-pang, of No. 19, Reclamation Street, Man Shui-Sang was in the Kowloon Court to-day sent to jail for three weeks.

While Chief Engineer Robertson, of the s.s. Tilawa, which went alongside No. 2 wharf at Kowloon Godowns yesterday, was in town, someone gained access to his cabin through a porthole and stole clothing worth \$30.

Mr. Wilkinson, second engineer of the R.F.A. Kharki, reports to the Police that between February 24 and 26 some person stole from his cabin a gold wrist watch valued at £10 and a silver wrist watch valued at \$15.

Suffering from an injury to his right hand, whilst engaged at work in the Hong Kong Rope Factory, Kennedy Town, a Chinese, Cheung Kam-hoi (20), of 5, Wing Wa Road, was removed to the Government Civil Hospital.

An audacious thief took the opportunity of stealing a gold watch from the back of No. 3, Austin Road at about 7 p.m. yesterday. The amah who left the watch on her bed while she was taking a bath in an adjoining room, saw the man come and go, but was unable to describe him.

Mrs. Baxter, of No. 21, Hum- phrey's Buildings, has reported to the Water Police Station the loss of \$410, and jewellery to the value of \$126, her premises having been burgled on February 18, while she was away. It appears that the thief obtained entrance by approaching an open window from the roof.

**CORRESPONDENCE.****POPSY AT THE DANCE.**

To the Editor of "China Mail": My dear, I didn't see you at the Dance. No invitation? How galling, my dear, but anyhow there's St. Patrick's and the Volunteer's, though they are different aren't they?

Simply all the best people were there and all trying so bravely to show they weren't haunted by the Sceptre of Poverty. But the frocks, my dear, too utterly economical and practically no backs, only what the Observatory man calls "a V-shaped depression between the Boning. Nothing lavish, my dear, but Angus said he'd never seen so much waist.

And there wasn't a collection though Tubby said there was sure to be. As the Government has simply no money left, but everything was quite free and heaps of people simply hibernated in the supper room and ate like Indian Famine Victims—too glutinous, my dear, but the poor things hadn't been able to afford a meal for weeks.

And The Bar, my dear! Did Artie miss His Bottle? I trow not. Why, they clung like moliasses and got so damp they became positively fungoid.

And, Oh, those uniforms! Just too scintillating, my dear, and the glittering satrap who took me to supper says it's real cold and no

**TRAMWAY COMPANY'S BUS LOSSES**

(Continued from Page 1.)

have understood it, but when I tell you that within the last six or seven months orders have been placed for 300 trams for the London area alone at a total cost of £840,000 and that 100 of these trams are for the group of tramway companies controlled by Lord Ashfield, who is Chairman of the London General Omnibus Company, you will realise that the Royal Commission on Transport has slipped up.

One other reference. Mr. J. G. B. Stone, Chairman of the Calcutta Tramways Company, in delivering his speech at the last annual general meeting in London said:

"The suggestion that tramway systems are obsolete and should be replaced by omnibuses has been assiduously fostered, but it seems evident that if such substitution is made the poorer classes will have to pay more for their travel, and rate-payers generally will have to bear increased charges for the maintenance of their roads. In Calcutta only a small portion of the people can afford to ride at all, and for them the cheapest form of transport is essential."

**Losses in Kowloon.**

At this meeting I have also to refer to the affairs of the Kai Tack Motor Bus Co. (1926), Ltd. As

in the case of your motor-buses on this side of the harbour I have to report losses. We have now completed two years' operation of this subsidiary in Kowloon and I regret to say that for various reasons which could hardly have been foreseen at the time it was made, this investment has not turned out as successfully as we hoped.

For the year under review, after providing for depreciation, the Kai Tack Company has made a loss on investment of \$47,894.

During the year two new taxes were imposed upon us, firstly, the seating tax of \$10 per seat per annum which accounts for \$5,560 annually and, secondly, the petrol tax of 15 cents per gallon which on the 1930 consumption at Kai Tack — represents \$15,600 per annum.

**Effect of Low Exchange.**

Serious though these items are to a small business the consequences of the drop in the value of the local dollar are much more serious. To take one item: tyres for the whole of 1929 cost less than tyres during the four months August—November 1930.

Petrol (apart from the tax) was not affected in 1930 because of our annual contract. At the present moment, however, the price we are paying for petrol (including tax) is 130 per cent. greater than the price we were paying this time last year.

Although the reign of petrol would now appear to be challenged by the advent of the Diesel or compression ignition engine using crude oil the fact remains that even with buses fitted with Diesel engines a considerable annual deficit could not be avoided on the Kai

wonder there's none in circulation. Angus said we would have stabilised the dollar at 2/- with the braid off their trousers and why weren't the Commissioners there to take them off but they couldn't have done that with us there, could they. How terribly thinking to wear 18 carrot pants, my dear.

Tubby says there were quantities of civil servants there simply reeking of confidential dollars and flaunting their misbegotten gains—too leprosy, my dear, sort of Calf's Head at the Feast; you know, and I say they really ought to be insulated because they do tarnish the air.

Your terpsicorean, Popsy.

Hong Kong, February 27.

**A.D.C. PRICES.**

To the Editor of "China Mail": Sir,—With reference to the Amateur Dramatic Club's forthcoming production of "Art and Mrs. Botticelli," I notice from the posters that prices for seats are to be \$3.50, \$2.50 and \$1.50 as against \$2, \$2 and \$1 charged hitherto. The new prices include Amusement Tax and the advertised increase in respect of the Stalls and Dress Circle is understandable, but, unless there is some very good reason for it, it doesn't seem to me quite fair on the pit patrons to jump the price 50 per cent. while the presumably more affluent play-goer is only affected to the extent of about 16 per cent.

Some friends of mine who enjoyed the play at Home have strongly advised me to see it; but I am a man of small means and don't feel like paying \$1.50 when I think \$1.10 more consistent.

As Theatre prices are a matter of public interest I hope you will insert this letter.

Yours, etc., PRITTI.

Hong Kong, February 26.

Tack system while the dollar remains anywhere near its present level and while the prevailing competition continues.

Mr. Herbert Morrison P.C., M.P. (Minister of Transport) in a recent speech said:

"In the 19th century they were told that free competition in road transport was the great thing, and that it would provide cheapness and efficiency. There was practically no business man of repute who to-day would say that that was a sound commercial doctrine.

Competition in road transport meant that time-tables were unrelated and that there was lack of contact between different forms of transport, which meant empty seats. People appreciated empty seats, but these were the economics not of wisdom but of bad form. The empty seat had to be paid for either by capital, in the shape of bad services, bad vehicles, and bankruptcy, or by the passengers in needlessly high fares for those who did travel, uncomfortable and unsafe vehicles, inefficient services, and a poor quality of transport worker."

**The Only Solution.**

One almost feels that Mr. Morrison must have had Kowloon in his mind when he used those words.

Your Board is convinced that the only solution of the Kowloon road transport problem lies:

(a) in the substitution of unified control and single management for the existing reckless competition and duplication of services.

(b) in a franchise of not less than 20 years with the option—at the absolute discretion of the operating Company—of employing either trolley vehicles or Diesel-engined buses or both in lieu of or in addition to ordinary petrol vehicles.

It will be recalled that at the date of the annual meeting last year reference was made to the commencement of certain negotiations with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotels, Ltd., in regard to its motorbus and garage services. The abortive results of those negotiations were conveyed to you fully at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on May 7 last and in the private report of that meeting subsequently circulated to all shareholders of the Company.

Turning to the statement of the year's accounts now before you, I have already remarked upon the gratifying increase of \$105,986.90 in traffic revenue. Working expenses have also risen but to an extent that is only a fraction more than 10 per cent. over last year and, in view of general conditions arising from the seriously adverse exchange obtaining throughout the year, such rising costs have been inevitable and the measure of the increase as shown may be viewed as by no means disproportionate to the circumstances.

The depreciation charge has also accounted for a sum of \$19,575 more than the previous year.

**Net Profit For Year.**

After providing for royalty and including the return from interest and investment sources, etc.—and this particular account is an inclusive item after setting-off the net result of the tramways motor-bus working—the net profit for the year amounts to \$741,295.63 which is \$9,532.10 greater than for the year 1929.

\$68,000 has been written-off from goodwill and construction expenses as before and the further item of \$150,000 also written-off represents, in the opinion of your Board, a reasonable provision that must be made against a revaluation of the Kai Tack Motor-Bus investment in the light of what I have already said in that regard and the losses are financed by the Tramway Company.

The sum of \$260,000 has been applied in the interim dividend already paid and your Directors now recommend the declaration of a final dividend of 40 cents per share, making a total of 80 cents per share for the year.

This will absorb a further \$260,000 and leaves after including \$265,662.75 brought in from the last account \$262,848.43 to be carried forward.

(Continued on Page 7.)

**Ten Years Ago.**

From the "China Mail" of February 27, 1921.

To-day's dollar is worth 2/5 1/4.

\* \* \*

A Japanese named K. Saglorn was arrested yesterday in a charge of boarding a train while in motion, but was allowed out on bail.

## TRAMWAY COMPANY'S BUS LOSSES

(Continued from Page 6.)

Land investment: I think there is only one other item in these accounts calling for separate explanation. An addition of \$83,636.10 appears to the asset "Other Property" in the balance sheet. This is in respect of a purchase of land in Kowloon carried through during the year and there is every prospect that such an investment will prove to be a profitable one.

I now have to propose:

"That the report of the Directors and statement of accounts as presented for the year ended December 31, 1930, be adopted and that a final dividend of 40 cents per share for the year 1930 is hereby sanctioned."

When the adoption of the resolution has been seconded I shall be pleased to reply to any questions that shareholders may wish to ask

MR. T. E. PEARCE.

Mr. T. E. Pearce, in seconding the resolution, said:

I feel sure shareholders present to-day have listened to, and many others will read later, your remarks, Mr. Chairman, with much interest and satisfaction.

I do not wish to revive the controversy as to the merits of buses as opposed to trams, but it seems clear from the figures you have produced to-day, the policy of the Board in improving the tracks and the trams themselves has been fully justified.

It must be highly gratifying to the executive of the Company to find that the system was able to cope with such a large number of passengers as 29,000,000 last year, or 2,000,000 more than the one before. With the rapid development in Wan Chai and district, the prospects would appear to be bright for a further increase during this 12 months.

Even to the uninitiated it must be obvious that to assist in the development and to maintain the prosperity of any district, it is essential to have cheap and rapid means of transport. I think shareholders will agree with me our undertaking adequately meets this need, and it is satisfactory to observe the public supports it in increasing numbers.

### BUS COMPANY LOSSES.

It is disappointing to learn that our buses in Hong Kong have been run at a loss, but no doubt the board have decided that it is good policy to run them as an adjunct to our tram business.

It is also most disappointing to learn the Company has made a loss on the Kai Tak Motor Bus venture, and with the increased heavy charges you have spoken of, it



"How convenient keyholes are when one wants to see without being seen!"

Buen Humor, Madrid.

### COMPANY DIVIDEND.

#### THE HONG KONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.

Subject to audit, the General Managers of the Hong Kong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., report that the balance at credit of Profit & Loss Account for the year ended December 31, 1930, is \$183,034.49 which, with \$159,122.98 brought forward from the previous year, makes a total of \$342,167.47 available for appropriation.

The Directors will, at the forthcoming meeting of shareholders, recommend the following distribution:

To pay a dividend of 75 cents per share, absorbing \$150,000.00  
To place to credit of Typhoon & Flood Account 5,000.00  
To write off factory buildings at Mataukok 100,000.00  
To write off Plant and Machinery 17,157.47  
To carry forward to credit of next year's account 70,000.00  
\$342,167.47

One of the largest shipments of frogs in district history was made the other day by Ross and Frank Pollack who, with Henry Munn, forwarded 80 pounds, dressed, to New York City. They obtained the supply along the marshes of Trent River and Rice Lake.

## BANDIT HORROR RECALLED.

### Bishop Versiglia's Trust Estate.

### A NATIVE OF ITALY.

The terrible bandit outrage at Shiu Pin, Kwangtung, on February 25 last year, when Bishop Versiglia was foully murdered, is recalled by the grant of letters of administration for trust funds in his hands to Carlo Braga, a Salesian Father, of 179, Third Street, Hong Kong (St. Louis Industrial School). The estate, consisting of properties of the Salesian Mission, is valued at \$42,700.

Bishop Versiglia was attached to the Catholic Mission at Chiu Chow, Kwangtung. He was Titular Bishop of Caristo, Italy, and Vicar Apostolic of Shiu Chow. He was 57 years old when he met his tragic fate. A native of Italy, he left behind his mother, Maria Versiglia, and two sisters, Cesaria Faravelli, and Carolina Sarolini.

### Chinese Estates.

Tam In-fung, alias Tam Sui-ki, who died at 6, Illumination Terrace, Hong Kong, on September 30 last, left estate valued at \$31,000. Probate has been granted to Wong Fi-wan, his widow.

Leung Shu-chuen, who died at Nam Tong Village, Kwangtung, on February 3 last, left estate valued at \$21,500. Probate has been granted to Leung Chok-po and Leung Yat-lim, merchants.

### STABBED WITH PENKNIFE.

A stabbing affray occurred at the Po Hing Theatre, Nathan Road, last night, as the result of which Wong Pak-yan (28) stated to be employed by the Hop Yik firm of building contractors, is now in the Kowloon Hospital. His condition is not serious.

It is alleged that Wong was stabbed with a penknife by an unknown Chinese with whom he had quarrelled outside the theatre.

### Other Business.

The Hon. Mr. C. G. S. Mackie and Mr. Choa Po-sien were re-elected Directors, on the proposal of Captain Riggs, seconded by Mr. Wm. Allen.

Messrs. Lowe, Bingham and Matthews were re-elected auditors, on the motion of Mr. H. Owen Hughes, seconded by Mr. Chua Seng-choo.

### Those Present.

Supporting the Chairman were the Hon. Mr. C. G. S. Mackie, Messrs. R. Stock, J. E. Joseph, and Choa Po-sien (Directors), Mr. L. C. F. Bellamy (General Manager), and Mr. W. F. Simmons, F.C.I.S. (Secretary).

Shareholders present were Captain C. B. Riggs, Messrs. T. E. Pearce, H. Owen Hughes, E. Ezra, Frank Austin, Wm. Allen, J. F. Wright, Jun. G. H. Wilson, Leung Wa-hing and Chua Seng-choo.

### FASHIONABLE JEWELLERY.

Amongst the fashionable jewellery are very lovely shoe buckles, which are nowadays carefully chosen as necklaces, and just as expensive. There are lovely buckles combining two colours. A square design has a crystal in the centre, surrounded by diamante, and such odd modes as a pair, one with green centre-piece and the other yellow are considered modish. Among the buckles that do match are three-piece stones, the central coloured, richly or palely, between white oblongs. The buckles which twinkle at every footsteps are to be seen in abundance, and there are many women who prefer uncut stones, in colours harmonising with their dress scheme.

### FINE PLEATING.

Where thick materials are concerned, fine pleating, as well as box-pleating, is in fashion, and costumes of checked suiting in blue or brown have skirts box-pleated into hitherto hip yokes, which may be well stitched as a self-trimming. Under three-quarter coats, or thick wool marocaines, plain or figured, there are fancy pleatings, but always the outline is slim and simple-looking. For tennis on the Riviera, finely pleated marocaine skirts are being made to go with white blouses, or sleeveless jumpers of white and yellow wools.

The Maritime Provinces of Canada, which have moved forward rapidly in the matter of co-operative marketing, have now perfected the organisation of a co-operative council for the three provinces concerned, to co-ordinate the efforts of the five co-operative groups in these provinces. These five groups do a total annual business of more than \$5,000,000, in the estimate of the Summerside Journal.

The Saint John Harbour Commission announces that two large Canadian industries are negotiating for sites along the water front for manufacturing plants.

## SHADOWS BEFORE

### COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN CHINA MAIL.

#### Social Functions.

To-day—Tea and Dinner Dances at Hong Kong Hotel.

To-day—Whist Drive, Helena May Institute, Kowloon, 8.45 p.m.

To-night—Farewell Dinner to British Economic Mission, Peninsula Hotel.

To-morrow—Elliot Hall annual concert and dance, 8 p.m.

To-morrow—St. David's Society Dinner, Lane Crawford's.

To-morrow—Craigengower Cricket Club Dance.

To-morrow—R. A. O. C. Dance.

March 5—R.A.O.B., Regalina Dance, Garrison Lecture Hall.

March 20—Yorkshire Society Dinner.

Entertainments.

To-day—Queen's Theatre, "Blackmail."

To-day—Central Theatre, "True to the Navy."

To-day—Majestic Theatre, "Vagabond King."

To-day—Star Theatre, "Bon-Kur."

To-day—World Theatre, "Hung Lin Ts'i," (Chinese picture).

To-day—Song Recital (Miss M. Gomes), Helena May Institute, 5.30 p.m.

March 7, 10, 13, 14—"Art & Mrs. Botticelli" by A.D.C., Theatre Royal, 9.15 p.m.

Home Mall.

To-day—Inward from Europe via Siberia (President Cleveland).

To-morrow—Outward for Europe via Marseilles (Malva), 10.30 a.m.

Sports.

See Diary on page 8.

Meetings.

To-morrow—Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, City Hall, 11.30 a.m.

March 5—H.K. Canton, Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd., Queen's Building, 11 a.m.

March 11—Hong Kong Telephone Co., Ltd., Exchange Building (2nd floor), 11.30 a.m.

March 18—Green Island Cement Co., Exchange Building, 11.30 a.m.

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

### BANK HOLIDAYS.

THE EXCHANGE BANKS will OPEN at 9.30 a.m. and will CLOSE at 12 Noon, for the Transaction of Public Business on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th March (Race Meeting).

Hong Kong, 26th Feb., 1931.

### NOTICE.

#### RACE MEETING.

ON MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, March 2, 3, and 4, 1931, all Departments will be CLOSED at 1 p.m.

#### On These Days.

The Hong Kong Dispensary, Dispensing Department, will be opened for the purpose of dispensing prescriptions from 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

Hong Kong, February 27, 1931.

### ROYAL HONG KONG YACHT CLUB.

#### TREVESSA TROPHY RACE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the next BI-ANNUAL RACE for the above Trophy will be sailed on TUESDAY, March 24, 1931.

Course:—Start from Channel Rocks, Kowloon Rock (P), Mark boat off Yacht Club (S), Mark boat off Cuck Rock Beacon (P), Finish at Yacht Club across line West to East and leaving markboat to Port.

Applications for Entry should reach me on or before noon on Monday, March 23.

R. J. VERNALL,  
Hon. Secretary.  
R.H.K.Y.C., February 24, 1931.

### G. NOTICE.

#### TRAFFIC REGULATIONS DURING THE RACES, 1931.

I. All vehicles going to the Races at Wong-Nei-Chung will proceed via Arsenal Street, Hennessy Road, Percival Street, Leighton Hill Road and round the Happy Valley via Wong-Nei-Chung Road to the entrance gates.

Vehicles will return to town via Morrison Gap Road and Queen's Road East. These arrangements will be in force between 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

II. Passengers will alight from and board Trams and Buses at:

(1) The main Public entrance gate and  
(2) The members entrance gate only.

III. Trucks and persons carrying large burdens will not be permitted West of Percival Street or East of Murray Road between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

IV. Pedestrians must walk on the footpaths, and not on the Roadway.

V. Vehicles must proceed at a slow speed in the vicinity of the Race Course.

VI. Vehicles will be parked in the vicinity of the Race Course as directed by the Police on duty.

VII. Dogs are not allowed on or near the Race Course. Any dog found straying is liable to be destroyed (Ordinance 1 of 1845, section 16, subsection 3).

Note:—There will be one way traffic only in Queen's Road East from the Monument to Arsenal Street from 11 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. The one way traffic will run from East to West.

Kennedy Road will be open to West bound traffic only from 11 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. Vehicles proceeding up Stubbs Road will proceed via Arsenal Street, Johnston Road (Old Praya East), Wanchai Road, Morrison Hill Road and Morrison Gap Road.

#### PARKING OF CARS AT THE RACE COURSE.

1. The Stand at the Public entrance is reserved for P.D. owners.

2. Morrison Hill parking-ground opposite Civil Service Club, and Village Road reserved for Private Cars.

3. Ventriss Road reserved for Public Cars.

E. D. C. WOLFE,  
Inspector General of Police,  
Hong Kong, 24th Feb., 1931.

## HUMOROUS RECORD SUCCESSES

Columbia  
New Record RECORDS

DX169—A Music Hall Trial Turn Sketch.

DX107—Daft Sandy Will Fyffe.

DX 28—The Coffee Stall Keeper ... Billy Bennett.

9529—A Few Drinks Leslie Henson.

9468—Sailing Up the Clyde Will Fyffe.

9108—The Engineer Will Fyffe.

### THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.

### G. FALCONER & CO., (HONG KONG) LTD.

#### WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS

#### DIAMOND MERCHANTS

#### Union Building (opposite G.P.O.)

Agents for:—ADMIRALTY CHARTS,  
ROSS'S BINOCULARS and TELESCOPES,  
KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,  
ENGLISH SILVERWARE, direct from Manufacturers,  
High Class English Jewellery.

Clean,  
bright shoes  
—longer wear

Cobra gives your shoes a brighter polish—a gleaming shine that lasts right through the day

**KEEP FIT!**  
WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED NEW STOCKS  
OF SPECIAL TRAINING  
EQUIPMENT  
INCLUDING

PUNCH BALLS ON STAND  
WITH SPRING BASE  
**\$145.**

PUNCH BALLS ON ROUND  
CAST IRON BASE  
**\$110.**

FLOOR TO CEILING BALLS  
**\$60.**

BOXING GLOVES,  
PUNCH BALL GLOVES  
& MITTS.  
MEDICINE BALLS.

SANDOW'S COMBINED  
DEVELOPERS.

**"ERNEST BARRY"**  
SCULLING MACHINES  
**\$250.**

**LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.**  
SPORTS DEPT.

**GRAY'S YELLOW LANTERN SHOPS**  
Alexandra Bldg.

Corner of Des Voeux Road C, and Chater Road.

**LINENS, LINGERIE, PYJAMAS, GIFTS,  
NOVELTY JEWELLERY, ETC.**

HONG KONG SHANGHAI MANILA.

FOR

**HEALTH AND INVIGORATION**

DRINK ONLY

(GERMAN)

**ELBSCHLOSS BEER**

Sole Agents—

**THE WING ON CO., LTD.**

Telephone: 25994.

**FRIDAY,**

13TH MARCH.

**S.P.C.A. BALL.**

ANNUAL FANCY DRESS CARNIVAL  
PENINSULA HOTEL.

TICKETS \$7.50.  
PRIZES FOR BEST  
COSTUMES.

ARRANGE YOUR PARTY NOW.

**Sport Columns**

**WHO WILL WIN?  
TO-MORROW'S CUP TIES AND  
LEAGUE GAMES.**

[Exclusive to China Mail—  
By "Linerman."]

The following is a list of Home football matches to-morrow. The teams in black type may win; where no black type is shown the match may result in a draw:

**ENGLISH CUP.**

SHUNTERLAND v. Exeter  
West Brom. v. Wolves  
EVERTON v. Southport  
WIRINGHAM v. Chelsea

**ENGLISH LEAGUE.**

Division I.  
ASTON VILLA v. Leicester C.  
BOLTON v. Blackburn C.  
Grimbsy v. M'CHESTER C.  
LIVERPOOL v. Blackpool  
Manchester U. v. Portsmouth  
MIDDLEBROOK v. Leeds U.  
Newcastle U. v. SHEFFIELD U.  
West Ham v. ARSENAL

**Division II.**

Bradford C.  
Burnley v. Plymouth  
MILLWALL v. Barnsley  
NOTTS F. v. Cardiff C.  
PRESTON v. Bury  
SOUTHAMPTON v. Swanside  
Stoke C.

**Division III.—Southern.**

GRENTFORD v. Wallall  
BRIGHTON v. Thames  
BRISTOL R. v. Bournemouth  
Crystal Pal. v. Coventry  
Gillingham v. NOTTS CO.  
Luton v. Swindon  
NEWPORT CO. v. Watford  
N'WESTHEND v. Queen's P.R.  
SOUTHERN v. Fulham  
TORQUAY v. Norwich

**Division III.—Northern.**

ACCRINGTON v. Nelson  
BARROW v. Hartlepools  
CARLISLE v. Gateshead  
Chesterfield v. Lincoln  
Crewe v. Shiflax  
Rochdale v. Oldham  
Rotherham v. Hull  
TRAMMERE v. Stockport  
WREXHAM v. New Brighton  
YORK v. Doncaster R.

**SCOTTISH CUP.**

CELTIC v. Aberdeen  
3RD LANARK v. St. Mirren  
Cowdenbeath v. MOTHERWELL  
Bo'ness v. KILMARNOCK

**SCOTTISH LEAGUE.**

AIRDRIE v. Leith  
East Fife v. HIBERNIANS  
Hamilton v. Rangers  
HEARTS v. Ayr U.  
Morton v. Clyde

**TO-MORROW'S SNIPS.**

Home.  
Sunderland, Aston Villa, Liverpool, Middlesbrough, Notts Forest, Oldham, Bradford, Birston, Brighton, Tranmere, Hearts.  
Away.  
Arsenal, Notts County, Motherwell, Kilmarnock.

**FOOTBALL ELEVENTHS FOR  
TO-MORROW.**

K.F.C. v. SOUTH CHINA—K.F.C.  
Ground at 4.15 p.m.

K.F.C.—Fenny; Martin, Downman; Hedley, McKeyle, Bliss; Pile, Simpson, Gillott, Grimwood and Ineson.

K.F.C. II v. UNIVERSITY—K.F.C.  
Ground at 2.45 p.m.

K.F.C. II—Angus (F.); Guest, Eastman; Everest, Gilchrist, Cameron; Williams, Whiting, Spary, Cotton and Bickford.

Reserves: Kerr, Smith, J. and A. B. Clemons.

**HOCKEY.**

Playing at King's Park yesterday, the K.B.S.F.P.A. were defeated by the M.G. Company (Jat Regiment) by the odd goal in three. W. Hirat netted for the home team. All the goals were scored in the first half.

**Hockey League.**

"Enthusiast" writes that in his letter on the subject of a Hockey League the words Hong Kong Clubs should be the Hong Kong Hockey Club.

**SUNDAY MATCH.**

CLUB v. SHAMZEEN—U.S.R.C.  
Ground on Sunday, March 8,  
at 10.30 a.m.

Club:—G. Duncan; J. Rodger, A. R. Botelho; M. W. Turner; A. A. Daud, J. E. Norona; H. Owen Hughes, G. E. R. Divett, R. W. Skipper, C. G. Francis and G. P. Lambrick.

**HONG KONG VOLUNTEERS  
CRICKET WEEK.**

The programme for the Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps and the selected teams are as follows:

Sunday (10.30 a.m.) and Monday  
(2 p.m.) v. K.C.C. at Kowloon.

E. J. B. Mitchell (Captain), A. C. Reid, K. H. Batzer, R. E. Bell, R. W. Skipper, C. G. Francis and G. P. Lambrick.

(Continued on next Column.)

**DERBY LOTTERY  
TICKET.**

South China A.A.  
Fined.

**MAGISTRATE'S RULING.**

Mr. W. Schofield, at the Central Magistracy yesterday afternoon, ruled that a document claimed by officials of the South China Athletic Association to be an announcement of allotment of chances in the Derby Sweepstakes was a lottery within the meaning of the Gambling Ordinance as amended in October last.

Mr. Ho Yun-kwong, an executive official of the S.C.A.A. was summoned before his Worship as under:

(a) that on various dates in February he was the person having the care and management of the S.C.A.A. a social Club, on the 7th floor of China Building, which premises were used for the purpose of lottery contrary to section 6 of Ordinance 2 of 1891, and (b) that on various dates in February he printed, or published, or caused to be printed or published, lottery tickets for the Hong Kong Derby contrary to the Gambling Ordinance of 1891.

Mr. H. Somerset Fitzroy (Public Prosecutor) conducted the Crown's case, together with Mr. T. H. King (Deputy Inspector General of Police), Mr. C. G. Perdue (Director of Criminal Intelligence) and Detective-Inspector A. N. Reynolds (complainant in the summonses).

Mr. M. K. Lo appeared for the defence, and emphasised the readiness of the Club to comply with the requirements of the authorities, and submitted that failure to apply for formal permission in this case was due to misunderstanding.

Mr. Fitzroy declared that he had not the slightest hesitation in holding that the document was a ticket, which was being hawked. He had received one through the post.

The Magistrate decided that the more he thought of the matter at issue, the more was he convinced that the document came within the definition of a ticket, and the Ordinance would make it appear to be a lottery ticket.

The Crown withdrew the first summons, and his Worship, convicting on the second, imposed a fine of \$10.

Davies, G. E. R. Divett, S. V. Gittins, R. M. Wood, J. E. Richardson, H. F. Green and R. H. Griffiths.

Tuesday (1 p.m.) v. The Army—  
on H.K.C.C. Ground.

H. Owen Hughes (Captain), Capt. W. H. G. Goater, A. Reid, K. H. Batzer, A. C. Reid, N. A. E. Mackay, S. V. Gittins, G. C. Burnett, J. E. Richardson, F. Baker and R. H. Griffiths.

Wednesday (1 p.m.) v. Combined  
League—on H.K.C.C. Ground.

H. Owen Hughes (Captain), Capt. W. H. G. Goater, A. Reid, K. H. Batzer, A. C. Reid, N. A. E. Mackay, S. V. Gittins, G. C. Burnett, J. E. Richardson, F. Baker and R. H. Griffiths.

Friday (1 p.m.) v. The Army—  
on H.K.C.C. Ground.

H. Owen Hughes (Captain), Capt. W. H. G. Goater, A. Reid, K. H. Batzer, A. C. Reid, N. A. E. Mackay, S. V. Gittins, G. C. Burnett, J. E. Richardson, F. Baker and R. H. Griffiths.

Saturday (1 p.m.) v. The Army—  
on H.K.C.C. Ground.

H. Owen Hughes (Captain), Capt. W. H. G. Goater, A. Reid, K. H. Batzer, A. C. Reid, N. A. E. Mackay, S. V. Gittins, G. C. Burnett, J. E. Richardson, F. Baker and R. H. Griffiths.

**BOXING**

**THEATRE ROYAL**

Thursday, March 5,  
at 9.15 p.m.

**MAIN EVENT**

15 Rounds Contest for  
Middleweight Championship of  
the Colony and Belt—  
Between

**JOCK CRICHTON,**

SHANGHAI

Welter Weight Champion  
of the Colony.

and

**A. B. EWIN,**

H.M.S. KENT

Middleweight Champion  
of the Colony

Imperial Services/Middleweight  
Champion 1925 and 1928.

Booking at Monte's

For Members of the

Hong Kong Boxing Association

on MONDAY and TUESDAY,

at 7 p.m.

For General Public:

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY,

March 4 and 5.

Booking at Monte's

For Members of the

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Booking at Monte's

For Members of the

Hong Kong Boxing Association

on MONDAY and TUESDAY,

at 7 p.m.

For General Public:

## POST OFFICE NOTICE.

## INWARD MAIIS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27.  
U.S.A., Canada, Japan, Shanghai (Seattle, Feb. 7) and Europe via Siberia (London, Feb. 7) . . . . . President Cleveland  
Amoy . . . . . Takada  
Manila . . . . . Empress of Russia  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28.  
Japan . . . . . Tjipanas  
Shanghai and Swatow . . . . . Sinkiang  
Japan . . . . . Heijo Maru  
SUNDAY, MARCH 1.  
Shanghai, Amoy and Europe via Siberia (London, Feb. 9) . . . . . Tjikarang  
Japan . . . . . Chichibu Maru  
MONDAY, MARCH 2.  
Calcutta and Straits . . . . . Ho Sang  
Manila . . . . . President Lincoln  
TUESDAY, MARCH 3.  
Batavia . . . . . Tjibadak  
Straits . . . . . Cremer  
Japan and Shanghai . . . . . Chenoneeaux  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4.  
Australia and Manila . . . . . St. Albans.

## OUTWARD MAIIS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27.  
Bangkok . . . . . Chinhuai . . . . . 5 p.m.  
Amoy, Shanghai and Japan . . . . . Tilawa . . . . . 5 p.m.  
Straits, Ceylon, India, Mauritius, E. & S. Africa, Aden, Egypt & Europe via Marseilles . . . . .  
K.P.O.

Parcels . . . . . Feb. 27, 4.30 p.m.  
Registration . . . . . Feb. 28, 9 a.m.  
Letters . . . . . 10 a.m.  
\*Manila, Rabaul, Australia and New Zealand via Brisbane . . . . .  
Tanda (Due Marseilles, Mar. 27.)  
G.P.O.

Parcels . . . . . Feb. 27, 5 p.m.  
Registration . . . . . Feb. 28, 9.45 a.m.  
Letters . . . . . 10.30 a.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1.  
Hoihow, Pakhoi and Haiphong . . . . .  
Straits and Calcutta . . . . .

Snigon . . . . .  
Varna . . . . .  
SUNDAY, MARCH 2.  
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow . . . . .  
MONDAY, MARCH 3.  
Japan, Canada, U.S.A., C. and S. America and \*Europe via Victoria, B.C. . . . .

President Lincoln (Due Victoria, B.C., Mar. 20.)  
Parcels . . . . . Mar. 2, 3 p.m.  
Registration . . . . . 4.15 p.m.  
Letters . . . . . 5 p.m.

President Lincoln  
Registration . . . . . Mar. 2, 5 p.m.  
Letters . . . . . 6 p.m.

Ho Sang . . . . . 5 p.m.  
MARCH 4.  
MARCH 5.  
TUESDAY, MARCH 6.  
Manila and Java via Sourabaya . . . . . Tjikarang . . . . . 9.30 a.m.  
Hoihow and Bangkok . . . . . Kiangsu . . . . . 10.30 a.m.

\*Supercribed correspondence only.

## LOAN REPUDIATION.

## SEQUEL TO THE PREMIER'S POLICY.

## SECESSION MOVEMENT.

Sydney, Yesterday.

As a sequel to Premier Lang's loan repudiation policy, Mr. Page, supported by the Country Party in the districts concerned, is campaigning for the secession of the Riverina district in north-east New South Wales and the establishment of an independent province, to be called "New England," bounded on the north by the Queensland border, on the west by the Darling River, and on the south by the Hunter River.

It is suggested that a provisional government of the new province should be established, ready to act immediately if New South Wales defaults. It is also suggested that any special currency which New South Wales may issue should be resisted.—Reuter.

## Three-Year Plan.

Melbourne, Yesterday.

The Premiers' Conference has reaffirmed their solutions with regard to the three-year plan to deal with the financial problem, including wage reductions and a tax of three shillings and sixpence in the pound sterling on all public loans which are subject to Federal taxation.

The Conference has passed a resolution denouncing Mr. Lang's repudiation policy, while voting was equal on a resolution involving inflation, the Governments of the Commonwealth, Victoria and

South Australia favouring it, while Queensland, West Australia, and Tasmania opposed.

The resolution declared that the Commonwealth Government should furnish £1,000,000 a month to provide employment on reproductive works, and £6,000,000 to provide a bounty on wheat and relieve the distress of wheat growers.

The Federal Government will introduce legislation to create an issue of fiduciary currency limited to £18,000,000, to be devoted to this purpose. Advances from the fiduciary fund will be covered by public loans.

## To Create Employment.

Mr. Theodore states that the Federal Government proposes to introduce a Bill in Parliament to create a fiduciary currency to meet the emergency, and to provide funds to create employment.

The Premiers' Conference in a statement denouncing Mr. Lang's policy says his assertion that Australia is paying Great Britain £36,000,000 annually of war debts is absolutely inaccurate.

Over two-thirds of this sum is necessary to meet the debts of the States, none of which has a war debt.

The Commonwealth's war debt payments to Great Britain are £5,600,000 annually, in accordance with the Anglo-Australian agreement.

Australia owes Great Britain and the United States £578,000,000, of which the war debt to Great Britain is now £81,000,000.

Mr. Scullin, when in England started negotiations with a view to modification of the 1921 funding agreement.—Reuter

## INCREASE IN TAXES EXPLAINED.

## Further Imports May Be Necessary.

## NEW LOAN MOOTED.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday, the recent increase in wine and tobacco duties were duly sanctioned. The Colonial Secretary explained that the big deficit in the 1931 Estimates had made them necessary.

Further, an increase of postal rates was under consideration, and if the Colony were to carry on with its very pressing water scheme, and others of a similar vital nature, the money would have to be procured by means of a loan.

## Reasons For Increases.

Introducing the motion, the Colonial Secretary said, inter alia:

The Estimates for 1931 as approved by the Legislative Council showed a deficit of \$2,299,000, the dollar throughout being calculated at 1/4d. The sterling commitments of the Government for 1931 amount to £677,000, and the dollar at an average of 1/- throughout the year will mean that a further \$3,388,000 must be added to the deficit—making a total deficit of \$5,687,000. The method of paying Government salaries one half at 1/4d, and one half at the current rate is calculated to reduce this figure to \$4,200,000; and an effort is being made to economise still further by the exclusion or postponement of approved items of expenditure, to result, it is hoped, in a saving of a further \$1,000,000. The deficit would thus be reduced to \$3,000,000.

## Effect of Dollar Drop.

Had the dollar remained at 1/4d, the estimated deficit of \$2,299,000 would have been reduced to \$1,900,000 by the half and half method of paying salaries to which I have already referred, and which was introduced after the approval of the Estimates. The aided deficit at the average rate of \$1=1/4d is therefore \$1,300,000; and it is this sum that the Government considers it necessary to provide, with a view to restoring the position that was contemplated when the 1931 Estimates were framed and approved.

To meet this requirement, an increase in the opium prices has been already approved and published; and it is estimated that \$200,000 in a full year and \$166,000 in 1931 will be derived from this source. The resolution before you represents an increase in the rate on beer and kindred liquors from 40 cents to 60 cents a gallon, and a reversion for the rates on tobacco to those obtaining before the last increase which was effected in 1930. Liquors excepting beer, but including Chinese liquor imported into the Colony, keep their rates as set out in silver currency unchanged, but the ten cents per gallon rebate allowed on the export of locally distilled liquor is withdrawn.

In the case of all alcohol and tobacco, however, the duties are to be payable on the basis of \$1=1/8d and it is estimated that beers and liquors should provide an additional \$350,000 during 1931, and tobacco \$928,000, making due allowance for decreased consumption in both cases.

## Extra Postage.

These figures however will still not meet the bill, and an increase in postal rates is under consideration, estimated to yield \$166,000 in the course of 1931. The totals then become:

Postage . . . . . \$ 166,000

Opium . . . . . 166,000

Beer and Alcohol . . . . . 350,000

Tobacco . . . . . 928,000

\$1,610,000

From which has to be deducted Military Contribution of 20 per cent . . . . . \$ 322,000

\$1,288,000

a sufficiently close approximation to the desired total to stand for the time.

## Loan May Be Sought.

It is right to warn the Council that if the Colony is to continue with its waterworks scheme, admittedly an urgent necessity, and other works almost as pressing, the

## STRANDING OF S.S. HIGHLAND HOPE.

## Master's Licence Suspended.

## LOG DESTROYED.

London, Yesterday. The Court of Inquiry into the stranding of the liner Highland Hope last November, has found that the stranding and subsequent loss were due to failure by the master to navigate his ship in a proper seamanship manner, and has suspended his licence for six months.

It considered the second officer remiss in his duties, and decided that the owners cannot be absolved from all blame because a master at such an age cannot be expected to stand the physical strain of commanding such a large passenger vessel.

## Officer Reprimanded.

The Court severely reprimanded the chief officer for concealing the fact that he had brought the deck scrap log ashore, and for subsequently destroying the log.

The Court commended the fourth officer, Mr. Parry, for courage and resource in dealing with the situation which arose due to an accident to one of the lifeboats.—Reuter.

[The 14,000-ton British motor-liner Highland Hope went ashore on November 19, and the passengers took to the lifeboats, all being rescued subsequently. The Highland Hope struck a dangerous reef in a dense fog at four o'clock in the morning, off the coast of Portugal, and at first the captain refused to leave the bridge, hoping to save the ship, which, however, became a total loss. The Highland Hope was one of the latest accessions to the fleet of the Nelson Steam Navigation Co. Ltd., whose "Highland" line comprises a number of fine steamers.

The master, Capt. J. Jones, is 75 years of age.]

## SILVER CRISIS.

## LEADS TO CLOSING OF BIG SILVER MINE.

New York, Yesterday. A message from Mexico City says the big silver mine at Mathechuan, employing 1,600 men, has closed as the result of the silver crisis, which has exhausted the company's resources. — Reuters American Service.

Money will have to be procured by means of a loan; and supply will be needed for the interest and sinking fund.

The community has been, I believe, in a spirit of resignation expecting some increase in the assessed taxes, but it is proposed to keep this as a first reserve against the service of the loan when it is floated. The intention is not to raise the loan in one total sum, but to begin on an issue of Treasury Bills until it can be more clearly seen what the ultimate needs of the Colony will be.

Mr. Braga And Proftreeters.

The Hon. Mr. J. P. Braga, whilst agreeing that some form of taxation was necessary in order to meet the shortage due to the iron in exchange, objected to dealers and retailers putting up prices to the consumer in anticipation of the new scale.

H. E. the Governor reminded Mr. Braga that the increased liquor duties had already taken effect.

Mr. Braga suggested that a distinctive form of label might be adopted for the new charges on wines and tobacco as distinct from wines and tobacco already taken out of bond.

H. E. the Governor said he had seen the suggestion, but thought it impracticable. The making of the new labels would defeat its own object.

As to wine dealers, they were entitled to protect themselves.

The resolutions were put to the meeting, and passed.

The third reading of the Estates Duty Bill was also passed.

The Finance Committee later approved votes of \$37,594, as already detailed in these columns.

## EXCHANGES.

## TO-DAY'S QUOTATIONS.

On London—  
Bank, wire . . . . . 11  
Bank, on demand . . . . . 11  
Bank, 4 months' sight 11 1/16  
Credits, 4 months' sight . . . . . 11 11/16

Documentary, 4 months' sight . . . . . 11 13/16

On Paris—  
On demand . . . . . 567 1/2

Credits, 4 months' sight . . . . . 607 1/2

On New York—  
On demand . . . . . 22 1/4

Credits, 60 days' sight . . . . . 23 1/2

On Bombay—  
Wire . . . . . 61 1/2

On demand . . . . . 61 1/2

On Calcutta—  
Wire . . . . . 61 1/2

On demand . . . . . 61 1/2

On Singapore—  
On demand . . . . . 85 1/2

On Manila—  
On demand . . . . . 44 1/2

On Shanghai—  
On demand . . . . . 18 7/16

Dollars . . . . . 44 1/2

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FOR PERFECTION IN  
WINTER SUITS.

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Winter Suits  
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the Means of  
Everyone.

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## First-Class Tailoring

With the Latest  
Sutlings  
For Winter Wear.

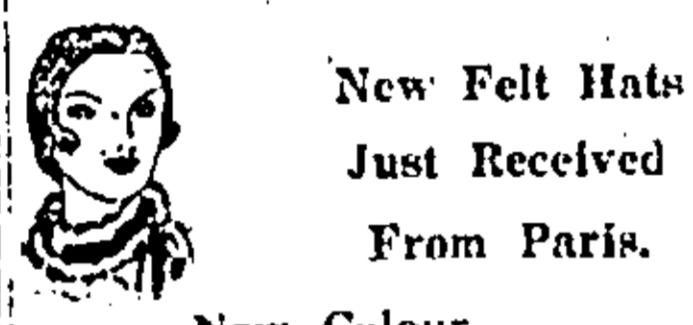


Cloth to Please You.  
Cut to Perfection.  
Finishes With Style.  
Leads to Satisfaction.

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New Felt Hats  
Just Received  
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New Colour  
Schemes For  
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"ALIE" BENNETT.

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"Happenings" on the  
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PRICE \$1.00.

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## TALKIE TALKS

by Diane

We are promised a truly magnificent feast of good things in the first week of March. "Let us be Gay" (Shall we? Let's) in the Queen's Theatre, and "The King of Jazz" in the Central Theatre. The former is the type of drawing-room comedy we all like, "Society stuff, magnificent gowns, sparkling wit, humour ad lib, a perfect cast headed by the attractive Norma Shearer, Marie Dressler, Rod La Rocque, Gilbert Emery, etc. It will



ROD LA ROCQUE

specifically please the women. It may teach some of us a lesson. There is so much truth in those lines from "No, No, Nanette." "Wear flannel and keep warm, but wear crepe-de-Chine and keep your husband." Norma has a rather bitter experience... HOW did she have that husband eating out of her hand, when she dressed up like a million dollars, and was gay? You will enjoy every moment of it; from the first reel when the delightful Norma has the courage to make herself—shall I say "so worthy"? The type who might keep a good husband, but who could not keep a living one. I admit to being especially weak where Marie Dressler is concerned. She is so truly a great artiste. It does not matter how small the part, she "Queens" it every time. Mark you, every one helps in the success. The Director? Robert Z. Leonard. To the uninitiated the kudos is not given to the man with the megaphone, but those in the know realize that he makes or mars a picture, no matter how clever the artiste. It is a picture to be seen twice, so take the advice of one who knows and has seen. (Queen's).



Clara Bow.

guessing. Not many laughs, but I enjoyed it, and, in spite of the unkind things said of Clara's singing, it is what one expects from her, and I like her voice. (Central). \*

"Blackmail." The first all-British Talkie. That is its chief recommendation, but Elstree and its American rivals have learned much about the powers of the microphone since this was produced. It is good English. The story? Melodramatic. It is up to you to support Home industries, and it is fair of the Queen's to give an unknown girl, Marion March, aged seventeen, will play Trilby.

Maurice Chevalier showed us how versatile he can be in "The Big Pond." I loved every moment of it, except that I do think, good looking though he is, he should study camera angles a little more. One would not leave home for him when he was singing in the gondola. Famous lower lip, delight of the caricaturist, was a bit too evident; he is nicer full face. Leave the profile stuff to the handsome John Barrymore. All New York support, so the names are unfamiliar. The father was the outstanding one, although a little exaggerated at times. Claudette Colbert with a really lovely speaking voice had not much opportunity. The star stole his own picture. I do not know anyone who could take it from him. (Central). \*

The Majestic in Kowloon promises us some first "runs." For those who live in "the place that counts," there is rather a long journey, but it will be worth it to see—Douglas Fairbanks, Jun., in "The Little Accident," and the late Milton Sills with Dorothy Mackail in a strong gripping, thrilling play

Another different kind of film. Revue, with the Master of the Baton—Paul Whiteman and his gallant band, all the stars of the Universal helping to give us a wonderful show. "The Bridal Veil" with Jeanette Loff, Stanley Smith and the Markert Dancers, accompanied by orchestra, and the music by men who write melody—Milton Ager and Jack Yellen. The idea of this scene is beautiful. Bridal costumes throughout the different periods, worn by women of perfect figures, poise, and beauty. It is when we see these Mannequin types cross the stage that we realize the art of walking. It can be so awkward and it can be a thing of joy to watch. Sketch after sketch, each one as good as the other, and supreme above it all—MUSIC (I have to spell it in capitals). John Boles sings well, "It Happened in Monterey" and "The Song of the Dawn." The former with romantic settings, exquisite Spanish dancing by the Sisters "G" and George Chiles, not forgetting again the Markert Dancers. Then in the other number a cowboy chorus. Watch that lighting effect as the sky changes from grey to the glorious dawn. Strongly advise you to try getting up to see for yourself, the real thing, but do not emulate Mr. Boles; the neighbours would not like it! "Happy Feet," Ragamuffin Romeo, "AND then" "The Rhapsody in Blue," everything blue, (except those who watch it), and the final with the girls on the huge piano, too dancing, row after row of them, to the notes of the inspiring music by George Gershwin. I tell thrill-

ed with the final act, "The Melting Pot." Picturesque dances of each nation, and Paul and his band in the supreme ensemble. Yes—as advertised—"It is an inspiration of Jazz, unapproached in any theatrical production anywhere." A talkie to be remembered. (Central). \*

I am the sort of person who likes to see—anyhow at a distance—life in all its aspects. That is why I enjoyed "True to the Navy." Not worthy of the greatest little artiste in her line, Clara Bow, but I was intrigued with Fredric March as the sailor. He did not exaggerate, as so many do, when they try to be the rough and ready American sailor. Harry Green annoyed me as much as he did the sailor boy, but that is the fault of the story and direction.

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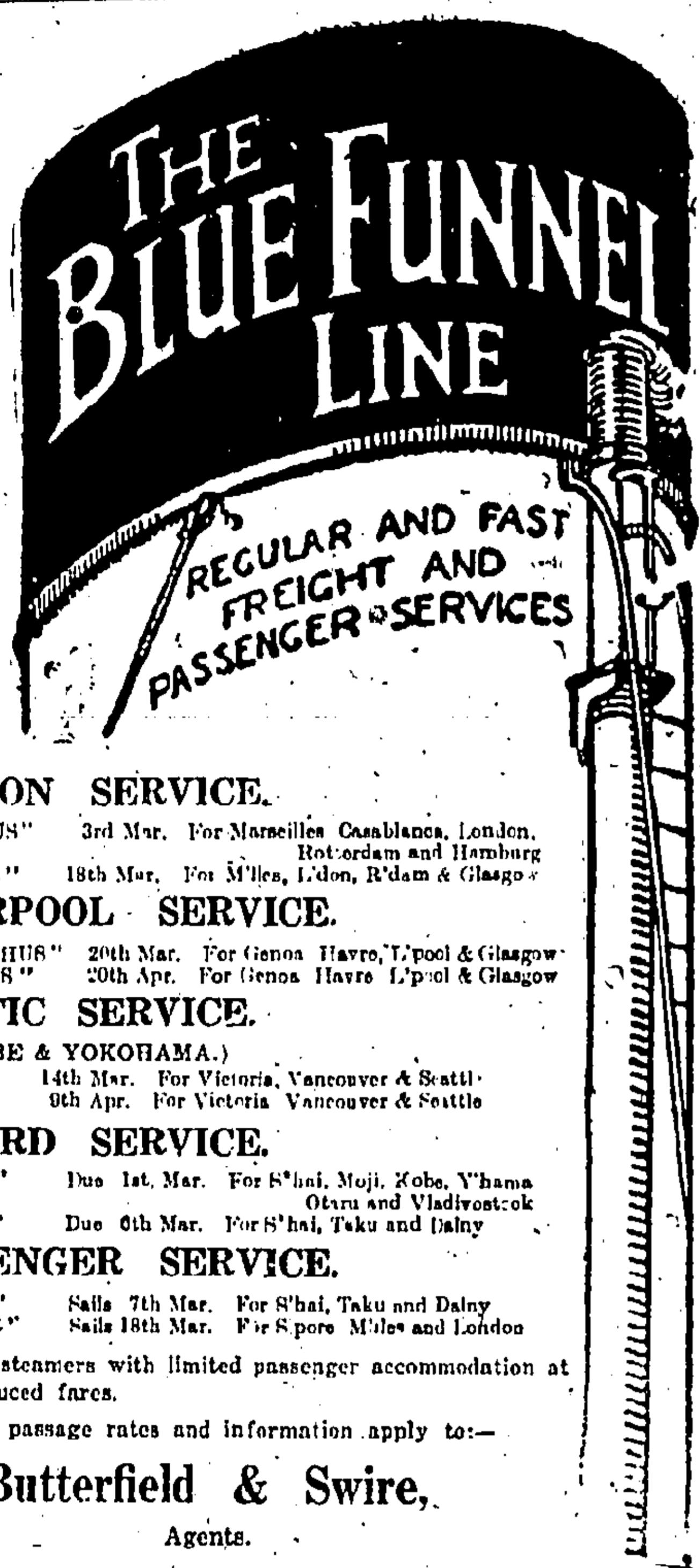
# The China Mail

Friday, February 27, 1931.  
First Moon, 11th Day.

ESTABLISHED  
1845

大英式月廿七號  
中華民國辛未年元月十一日  
禮拜五

HONG KONG, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1931.



## LONDON SERVICE

"MENELAUS" 3rd Mar. For Marseilles, Casablanca, London, Rotterdam and Hamburg.  
"ANTENOR" 18th Mar. For Miles, London, R'dam & Glasgow.

## LIVERPOOL SERVICE

"EURYLOCHUS" 20th Mar. For Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow.  
"TELESIAS" 20th Apr. For Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow.

## PACIFIC SERVICE

(via KOBE & YOKOHAMA.)  
"PERSEUS" Due 1st Mar. For S'hai, Moji, Kobe, N'hama, Otaru and Vladivostok.  
"HECTOR" Due 6th Mar. For S'hai, Taku and Dairen.

## INWARD SERVICE

"HECTOR" Sails 7th Mar. For S'hai, Taku and Dairen.  
"ANTENOR" Sails 18th Mar. For Singapore, Manila and London.

Also cargo steamers with limited passenger accommodation at specially reduced fares.

For freight, passage rates and information apply to:-

**Butterfield & Swire,**  
Agents.

## LARGE STRIKES TO BE ILLEGAL.

Government Defeated on Trades Dispute Bill.

## WHAT AMENDMENT MEANS.

London, Yesterday. The House of Commons Standing Committee by 37 votes to 31 adopted the Liberal amendment to the Trade Disputes Bill, in which Conservatives combined with Liberals against the Government.

The amendment will have the effect of making most large strikes illegal. It is generally considered that it will make the Bill worthless from the Government's point of view. The Committee adjourned to allow the Government to consider whether to drop the Bill.

## Declared Illegal.

By their amendment the Liberals succeeded in replacing the Government's definition of a general strike (which made sympathetic strikes possible) with a definition declaring illegal any strike which exposed the community to danger to health or safety by interfering with supplies and the distributing of essential foods, water, fuel, medical services, and other necessities of life.

## Not to Resign.

There is no question of the Government resigning as a result of its defeat. Mr. MacDonald recently stated in a public speech that he would only resign if defeated on a direct vote of censure.—Reuter.

[When the debate on the second reading of the Trades Dispute and Trades Unions Amendment Bill was resumed in the House of Commons on January 28, Mr. Winston Churchill vigorously attacked the measure. He defended the Act of 1927 passed by the Conservative Government which, he contended, still had the overwhelming approval of the mass of the nation. The proposed measure he described as bad for the

## TWO HUNDRED DIE IN HURRICANE.

Coast of Fiji Islands Devastated.

## EUROPEAN POPULATION.

New York, Yesterday. A message from Suva states that 280 persons perished during the hurricane in Fiji on Saturday.—Reuter's American Service.

## Lighthouse Destroyed.

Wellington, Yesterday.

The Nadi lighthouse blown away, and a train blown off the rails at Lautoka, are among incidents of the worst hurricane and floods ever experienced in Fiji, details of which are brought by the crew of a ship from Suva.

They report that eighty persons were killed in the Ba district, and a hundred at Singatoka.—Reuter.

[Fiji, of which Suva is the capital, comprises a group of about 250 islands, about 80 of which are inhabited, lying between 15 and 22 south latitudes and 178 west. The largest is Viti Levu, which has an area of 4,053 square miles. The town of Suva is on the south coast of Viti Levu. The total European population is 1,741. The islands, which were ceded by Tasmania in 1843, were ceded to Great Britain in 1874.]

## WEAKNESSES IN NEW CRUISERS.

Decks and Sides Thinly Armoured.

## LONG-RANGE GUNS.

New York, Yesterday. The New York Times publishes statements declaring that the recent manoeuvres in the neighbourhood of the Panama Canal revealed weaknesses in the new 10,000 ton cruisers. They are reported to have proved unsteady at the gun platforms, due to the excessive vibration of their powerful engines and the heavy rolling.

Some experts also consider that their thinly armoured decks and sides make them very vulnerable to air attack. The Times, however, in drawing attention to their high speed, expresses the opinion that they are a great menace to hostile aircraft carriers, whose flyingdecks they would be able to wreck from long range; "Thus, if properly spaced far from the coast, they could keep out naval bombers from the most vulnerable cities on the seaboard."—Reuter's American Service.

## OFFER WITHDRAWN.

MAGNATE NOT TO BUY NEW YORK PAPERS.

## EMPLOYEES' REQUEST.

New York, Yesterday.

Mr. Paul Block, the American newspaper magnate, who recently made an offer of \$5,000,000 for three New York papers which are up for sale—the Evening World, the Morning World, and the Sunday World—has withdrawn his offer.—Reuter's American Service.

[An earlier cable stated that employees of the three newspapers had requested the surrogate court to allow them to buy the papers.]

## AMUSEMENTS

AT THE QUEEN'S TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.20.



## ANNY ONDRA JOHN LONGDEN DONALD CALTHROP

ADDED ATTRACTION

REVIEW

PATHEONE WEEKLY

FEATURETTE

IN AN OLD WORLD GARDEN

NEXT CHANGE

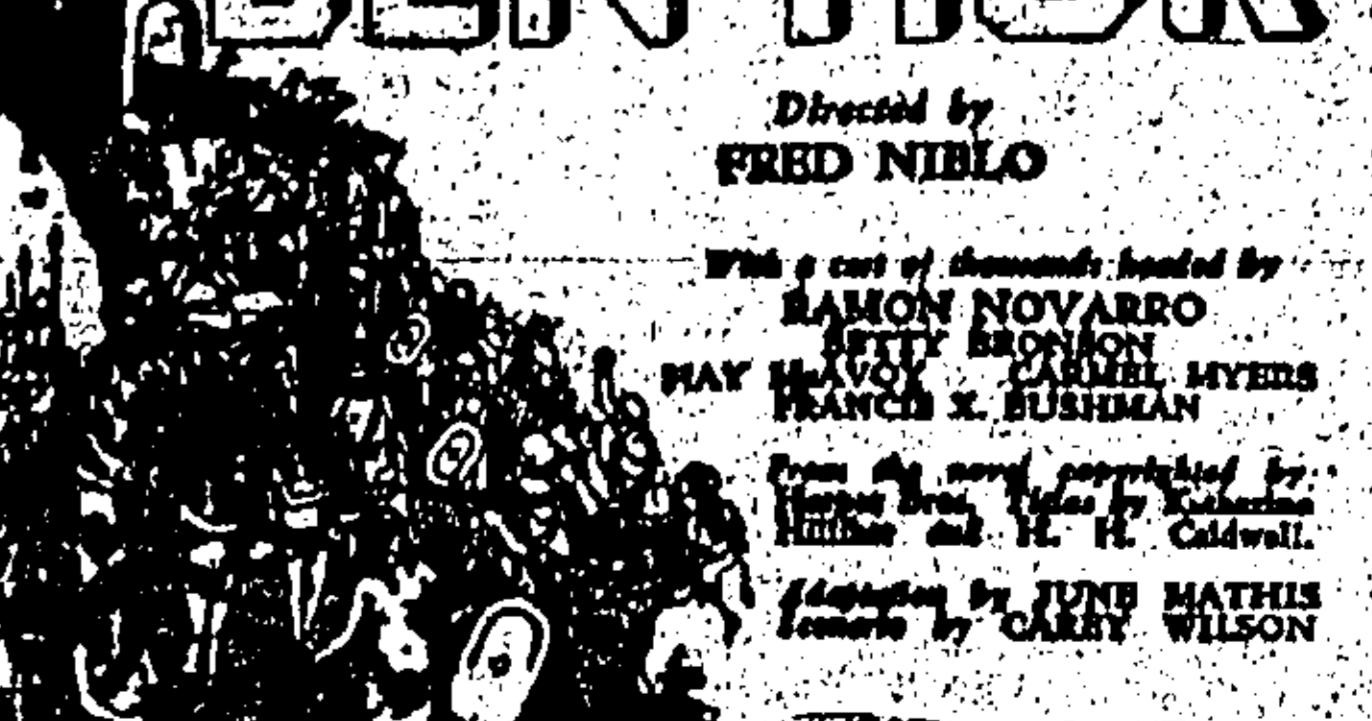
## Norma SHEARER

More thrilling than  
"The Divorce"  
More brilliant than  
"The Last of Mrs. Cheney."  
with this remarkable cast:  
Marie Dressler  
Rod La Rocque  
Gilbert Emery  
Hedda Hopper

A Robert Z. Leonard Production



## LET US BE GAY



## BEN-HUR

Directed by  
FRED NIBLO  
With a cast of thousands headed by  
SAMON NOVARO  
MAVAY, ROBERT MYERS  
FRANCIS X. BUSHMAN  
From the novel prepared by  
Henry St. John, based on the story by  
William Miller and H. H. Caldwell  
Adapted by JAMES MATHEWS  
from the play by CAREY WILLSON

AT THE STAR TO-DAY AT 5.30 & 9.20  
TO-MORROW AT 2.30, 5.30 & 9.20.

Take

## YATREN 105

as a prophylactic against

## DYSENTERY

Obtainable of all chemists.

## MAJESTIC THEATRE

NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW

a  
Paramount Picture

## FAMOUS SONGS

"Song of the Vagabonds"

"Only a Rose"

"Burgess Waltz"

"Home-Day"

"Love Me To-Night."

## THE MUSICAL MONARCH

OF THE MOVIES!

## DENNIS KING

By arrangement with Famous Players-Lasky

## The Vagabond King

ENTIRELY IN TECHNICOLOR